



**Rereleased September 17, 2021**

In the liner notes of the Rusty Ends Blues Band music writer Bill Dahl pens, “As far as Rusty Ends is concerned, constructing barriers between various roots music genres is an exercise in futility. The Louisville-based singer/guitarist has no compunctions about seamlessly blending those idioms into his own distinctive sound...”

This album was initially released in 1996 and when Earwig Company founder Michael Frank discovered it years later, he wanted to rerelease it.

The album contains a wonderful combination of roots, rock n’ roll and blues with hints of country.

It kicks off with the rollicking What Next?, which is exactly what he is asking about his girl. There is excellent harmonica by Jim Rosen, who also shows his stuff on four other tunes in this 17 song offering.

On Blue Shadows, I love Rusty's silky vocals as he moans, "As long as I'm alone no one can hear me call your name." Robbie Bartlett adds a nice touch on guitar.

Another nice ballad is Something Wrong Going On, where everything thought to be right, is turning out wrong. Rusty has such a distinctive guitar tone and it is on full display with this effort.

Don't Call It Love is a hilarious ditty for a patron after a bar's last call and he's looking for love. The dude heads over to his go-to girl in such situations – except she's not having any part of it. Rusty talks, not sings this tune, for wonderful effect.

Another tongue in cheek is found in Whips and Chains. No subtle lyrics here as Rusty exhibits his way with words about "My baby's into whips and chains. My baby's into pain." He goes on to cover her obsession with tattoos, body piercing, handcuffs, etc.

Rusty Ends has been performing for half a century and remains razor sharp, continuing to perform and record.

Billy Austin Martin